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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 09/772,883 | 01/31/2001 | Seiji Fujiwara | 33216M067 | 2064 |
| 75 | 90 07/17/2002 | | | |
| Beveridge, DeGrandi, | | | EXAMINER | |
| Weilacher & Young, L.L.P. Suite 800 | | | SHINGLETON, MICHAEL B | |
| 1850 M Street, 1 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| Washington, DC 20036 | | | 2817 | |

DATE MAILED: 07/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. Applicant(s) Group Art Unit Examiner

-The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address-

P riod for Resp nse

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE IS SET TO EXPIRE ONE MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a response be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for response is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication .
- Failure to respond within the set or extended period for response will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

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| tters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in 3 O.G. 213. |
| |
| is/are pending in the application. |
| is/are withdrawn from consideration. |
| is/are allowed. |
| is/are rejected. |
| is/are objected to. |
| are subject to restriction or election |
| requirement. |
| 2-948. approved □ disapproved. Examiner. § 11 9(a)-(d). cuments have been eau (PCT Rule 1 7.2(a)). |
| |
| • |
| 51.1.1.0 |
| ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413 |
| [7] NM of Jfa |
| □ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152□ Other |
| |

Application/Control Number: 09/772,883

Art Unit: 2817

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Species I directed to Figures 1(a-d), 11(a-d). Species II directed to Figures 2(a-d), 7,8. Species III directed toward Figures 3(a-d). Species IV directed to Figure 4. Species V directed toward Figure 12.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Currently, claim 1 in so far as understood is generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael B. Shingleton whose telephone number is 703-308-4903. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30 to 4:30. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal, can be reached on (703) 308-4909. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

MBS July 11, 2002

> MICHAELBSHINGLETON PRIMARYEXAMINETS GROUPARTUNITS



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Quality Assurance Specialists:

Don Hajec......703-308-4075

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